

Press-Herald

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Back in the Jet Set

Torrance's junketing councilmen, straining at the leash during a self-imposed limit of \$1,000 a year each on travel outside the city, decided Tuesday evening to get back into the swinging jet set.

A thousand dollars a year just isn't enough J. A. Beasley told his colleagues. David K. Lyman agreed, and added that each councilman should be the judge of his own expenditures.

Each councilman was the judge of his own expenditures for many years, and some of them spent it like King Farouk. In one 18-month period, detailed earlier in a Press-Herald survey of their far-flung visits, travel costs for one councilman ran to nearly \$3,000, and included trips to New York, Miami, Mexico City, Houston, Oakland, and other points. This same councilman has since been to Hawaii among other of his tax-paid junkets.

Several others have compiled a similar record of junketing at the taxpayers' funds.

One councilman ran up a travel tab of more than \$2,600. Another tab ran \$2,049 for an eight-month period.

The Press-Herald long ago called for some guidelines for the free-wheeling junketeers. To the credit of Mayor Albert Isen, he sought to find and establish a reasonable policy on travel. The City Council last February approved a ban on all travel outside the city and modified it in May to impose a limit of \$1,000 for junkets in any one year.

Councilmen apparently missed the gay life of jet planes, plush hotels, and expense account fun in the exciting cities of the western hemisphere.

It has been suggested that most of them never had it so good, and have been treating themselves in a style which was only a dream before becoming a councilman.

With the possible exception of George Vico, who was exposed to a plush life with a major league ball club picking up the tab, a world of hamburgers and buses has been replaced by Maine lobster, vintage champagne, and nonstop jetliners.

The councilmen have rejoined the jet set and we can expect the tabs to begin rolling in again from the fun cities of the New World.

Councilman Beasley set the tone Tuesday night when he pointed out that if the people thought a councilman was spending too much on junkets the people would make the final decision.

For the taxpayer and family man who has to stay on the job so he can ante up his share of the junketing costs, Mr. Beasley's remarks may sound like an interesting challenge.

How about it, Mr. Taxpayer?

Streets Needed Now

Torrance councilmen will be asked Tuesday night to approve a precise plan of development for the alignment of Maple and Madrona avenues through the industrial area north of Lomita Boulevard.

Those who have even glanced at any of the several major traffic studies compiled for this area recently can understand the pressing need for a major upgrading of principal streets and highways throughout the city.

Because of their location in relation to the civic center and the Del Amo centers, Maple and Madrona must be considered principal streets. Approval of the precise plan for their future alignment would assure that the rights-of-way would be available when the city is able to develop them as traffic arterials.

From the Mailbox

Young Officer's Widow Grateful

Thank you and all the members of the Torrance Press-Herald most sincerely for your efforts on behalf of my late husband and myself. I am deeply grateful and I am sure my husband would have been most pleased.

I would like to request that you ask the people, who have most generously donated money for my benefit, to please not contribute any more. My husband made proper arrangements, in the

event anything should happen to him, and his fellow officers have also made provisions for my needs.

Again, I am grateful to you all and all the kind and thoughtful citizens of this community for the many expressions of sympathy and concern given me. I have asked the Kiwanis Club to discontinue their solicitation and thanked them for their thoughtfulness.

Mrs. Christine Seibert

Morning Report:

Don't tell me the war in Vietnam isn't spreading. The latest casualty—7000 miles from the demilitarized zone — is a candidate for the American presidency, whose name, if I have not been brainwashed, is George Romney.

Mr. Romney was felled by his own statement that he was totally misled on a trip to Saigon by Ambassador Lodge and General Westmoreland. They brainwashed him in 1965 and he didn't come out of it until 1967.

Now, nobody denies him the right to change positions, from a species of hawk to a species of dove. Car manufacturers—and he used to be one—do it annually. Even politicians should try to meet the demands of the market. But nobody is going to buy a car or a candidate with a brainwash in its past.

Abe Mellinkoff

The President's Support Is Appreciated



AFFAIRS OF STATE

Reagan Says State Needs New Attitude on Welfare

By HENRY C. MACARTHUR
Capital News Service
SACRAMENTO — Something of a revised attitude in the state's approach to the welfare problem is being urged by Governor Ronald Reagan.

In brief, the governor is urging welfare for people who justly deserve assistance, and to those people only.

This isn't a new attitude, in fact, it probably has been subconsciously in the minds of the taxpaying public ever since the beginning of the liberal welfare give-aways back in the 1930's.

But the attitude of self-preservation in the past thirty years has suffered serious set-backs under the domination of federal and state bureaucracy and a socialistic concept that the drone should be given the same consideration as the worker.

Although the governor applies his philosophies to all welfare programs, the issue is being brought to a head as the result of the mess in which the Medi-Cal program finds itself.

In a recent speech, Reagan said that unless this program is "revised and revamped, it not only can, but most assuredly will, bankrupt our state, and in a very few years."

Bankrupting the state in fact, has a double meaning. First, it means that the state treasury runs out of money, but what is more important, it means that the people who supply that money must be taxed beyond their ability to pay. So bankrupting the state means actually bankrupting the people who are called upon to pay the

Alan Grey Says . . .

The President's daughter Lynda . . .
Now has her heart a-throb . . .
Since announcing her engagement . . .
To Mr. Charles Robb . . .
The object of her affection . . .
Is an active Marine Corps member . . .
Who will marry the President's daughter . . .
Sometime in early December . . .
This could have implications . . .
That in some respects are bad . . .
To visit with the Commander in Chief . . .
And address him now as Dad.

state's obligations. Said Reagan: "There are those among us today who have established the idea that welfare is an inalienable right of the recipient."

"But what of the right of those who work and earn, and share the fruit of their toil to make welfare possible, and those who earn their own way, pay their own doctors and provide for public welfare with their earnings?"

"These people are restrained in the amount of care they can afford for themselves."

It would appear that the time is long overdue when government should start thinking about the welfare of the citizens who pay the bills, and instead of voting billion dollar tax increases of a state already overburdened with taxes, might consider curtailed spending

WILLIAM HOGAN

Mailer Takes a Critical Look at America, Texans

Norman Mailer has been quoted as saying, in effect, that some of the most interesting writing in America appears on men's room walls. He has attempted to enlarge on this branch of folk art by pouring into this novel, "Why Are We in Vietnam" the gristliest epithets and sexual vulgarities at his command.

The result is disturbing reading for the average citizen, more disturbing than anything produced by the notorious Olympia Press in Paris in a day when Americans had to go abroad to achieve such questionable literary pleasures.

In spite of its title, Mailer's novel, or personal statement in the form of a novel, has nothing to do with Vietnam. It has to do with Texans, whom he presents as the most powerful, profane, swaggering, insensitive and influential of Americans. They are the ones who call the shots in this new American Dream, a Dream which not only permits, but insists upon such adventures as the military one in Southeast Asia.

Without endorsing it, I recognize it as some Joycean breakthrough in language which, God help us, might be an important literary form during the rest of the

programs rather than increasing the government aid for those who are capable of caring for themselves but won't.

Quite obviously, the citizen who lacks a responsibility to government is not voluntarily going to give up a free ride as long as government continues to furnish that free ride at the expense of those who produce.

It is becoming more and more common in some quarters for welfare recipients to refuse to go to work because they can't get as much money from working as they can from receipt of the state's largesse.

There appears to be only one simple answer to the problem, and that's to reduce the field of spending to the point where the needy will be cared for, as has happened in the past, and return poverty to its former status of undesirability, rather than keep its present status of popularity.

Statutes adopted by the Congress dealing with the

citizenry had to conform to the amendments, and the courts were empowered to see that they did conform. All that was then needed was enforcement of the statutes by elected public officers and their agents. It is this court interpretation and the enforcement which has preserved for us our essential freedoms.

The rights, about 27 in all, are social in nature and effect.

Opinions on Affairs of the World

fact, and some are in delicate balance which can only be maintained by standards which are ethical in character pertaining to the human condition and relation.

But in our time these rights have been impinged upon and somewhat moderated by technology. A simple example: you have a "right" to cross a city street on lawful business, but by common consent this right has been modified by red traffic lights.

The question of your rights arises in a far more complex and hidden fashion by the pervasive use of machines, such as computers, which have a profound effect on your life and your relation to society and government.

A private research agency, the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, has issued a warning in the form of a 46-page report entitled, "The United Nations and Human Rights." While directed at an international target, the report deals as well with rights which are peculiarly American.

It speaks of the "cumulative danger involved in the march of technology and science without adequate consideration of the social effects of their findings."

CAPITOL NEWSMAKERS

State's ABC Director Means to Enforce Laws

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capital News Service
SACRAMENTO — The alcoholic beverage industry in California pays special fees so the state department of alcoholic beverage control can enforce industry regulations and Edward J. Kirby, ABC director, wants to give the industry its money's worth.

Kirby, who moved into the ABC directorship after 25 years with the FBI in Southern California, has filed accusations against some of the largest liquor dealers in California in recent weeks. They came during an intensive investigation, primarily of wholesale practices.

"The law doesn't give me any authority to enforce the law at random or to show any favoritism," Kirby said. "One condition of being in the alcoholic beverage industry in California is that they comply with the law—nothing more, nothing less."

"The industry is paying us fees for our business practices unit to investigate it and obtain compliance with the law," he said. "I figure we ought to utilize those fees for just that purpose — a dollar's worth of service for every dollar in fees."

The alcoholic beverage industry in California is one of the most carefully regulated by the state but, as Kirby points out, most of the regulations were written by the industry itself, or at least requested by the people in the business.

Just how happy four licensees are as to Kirby's giving a dollar's worth of enforcement for a dollar in fees is not known. Earlier Kirby filed accusations against the Pabst Brewing Co. in Los Angeles and the Southside Distributors, a major beer wholesaler in Los Angeles.

ROYCE BRIER

Technology of Computer Enters Realm of Rights

When the Bill of Rights was devised by the Founding Fathers as ten amendments to the Constitution, it was fairly easy to protect the rights of citizens, which are enunciated in clear and concise language.

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Both the brewery and the wholesaler were charged with giving secret rebates or other concessions to retailers.

More recently, Kirby filed an accusation against a prominent liquor wholesaler in San Francisco, Max Sobel Wholesale Liquors, Inc., charging the firm with 18 counts of giving illegal discounts and 8 counts of giving illegal samples of liquor.

And the Beaulieu Vineyard, Inc., Rutherford, was

The Men in Action on the Sacramento Scene.

charged on eight counts of giving unlawful samples of wine to Bay Area restaurants.

The four cases, first of their type to be filed in some time, are indicative of some of the intricacies of the business. The charges illustrate how certain regulations are adopted for the protection of the industry but then are violated by the people they supposedly are protecting.

The state's unique fair trade law for liquor requires the distillers, wholesalers or brand owners to file a schedule of minimum retail prices for each product and a schedule of quantity discounts which will be offered to retailers. This is aimed at keeping large retailers from gaining unfair advantage by receiving bigger discounts than smaller ones.

However, in the Sobel case, it is charged that the firm offered discounts in excess of those posted on the schedule, ranging from \$2 to \$555.

The beer pricing system is similar and, in the southern California cases, it is being charged that the brewery and wholesaler sold at the proper discount but then gave other concessions to the retailer.

Whether it was beginner's luck or being in the right place at the right time, Kirby's department had one of the best sessions of the legislature this year that has been seen in years. Every bill that the department supported was approved.

Bills to which the department had opposition were amended to remove the objectionable parts. Other bills opposed by the department were killed by the lawmakers.

The only bill which passed both houses over the department's objections was vetoed by Governor Ronald Reagan. Kirby said his department will have a legislative program in 1968 but it's not expected to be as extensive as this year. Major law changes effected this year included one to permit off-sale general liquor licenses to be transferred from one county to another, under certain conditions.

Kirby apparently is not so obsessed, as some recent directors have been, with the high prices that off-sale liquor licenses command on the open market. The state's original fee is \$6,000 but, in some counties where there is a big shortage of licenses, the market price is as high as \$60,000.

Of course, if the price of licenses was frozen at a particular figure, such as \$15,000, it would be disastrous for those persons who recently paid higher prices.

Kirby was asked if there was a difficult period of transition in leaving the FBI and stepping into the liquor directorship.

"There really was not much transition," Kirby said. "I left one enforcement job and started another. And I've really been so busy I haven't had much time to think about the change."

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Where your rights were formerly in the hands of

My Neighbors



"Ah—Uncle George, remember when you bounced me on your knee—how I'd love to recapture those moments again!"